

the future, that we will start those things, we will—yes, we appreciate all the listening sessions, but then, as happened too often under Speaker Boehner, somebody, we don't even know who—there were a couple of things that made me wonder: Who wrote this? Is this the insurance lobby? Where did this come from?

But bring the bill out and let us see it instead of telling every Republican: It is going to go through committee; and Democrats are going to have a million amendments and we have got to vote down every one of them; we don't want any Republican amendments; we are going to take it like it is.

Well, see, to some of us, that is not really regular order. Regular order is a chance to have amendments, and especially from people in the majority who see real problems with the bill.

So we can do that, and I look forward to doing that. And since we knew the Senate wasn't going to take it up until May sometime anyway, we have got time to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you felt the same as I did hearing all across our Conference, people saying, look, this is important enough. We are going to have time where we go back to our districts between now and the middle of May when the Senate might take this bill up.

Let's make sure we don't go on recess, go back to our districts to have people scream at us because we hadn't passed something. Let's stay here, and let's get it done like we did 3 years ago on the border security bill.

But we have got a lot of work to do. There are serious problems with the bill. But we also now know, despite what some have represented, that, gee, we can't know what the Parliamentarians would say or recommend. It is great to know that the Parliamentarian in the Senate, actually, Assistant Parliamentarians work a great deal like our splendid Parliamentarian here.

If you are getting ready to file a bill or if you are thinking about an amendment, you can actually go to any one of our Parliamentarian or assistants, show them the language. They can't give an obligatory ruling, and they generally tell us when they advise us: This is what I think, how the rule would apply there, and you may want to tweak this or that.

They always have the caveat: But remember, I am the Parliamentarian. I don't rule on anything. All I would do, if I am allowed, or it is requested, I will whisper in the ear of the presiding—which, in the Senate, hopefully, would be Vice President PENCE.

And, gee, the Byrd Rule is not that complicated. When you are under reconciliation, it needs to be about the budget. So, if anything that is amended or added to or part of the bill will materially affect the budget, it survives the Byrd Rule and it stays in. That is it.

The word in the Byrd Rule is “incidental.” It can't be just incidental or

have an incidental effect on the budget. It has got to have a material effect; otherwise, it is considered extraneous.

Well, I would hope, knowing my friend, a former Member of the House here, former Conference chair, now Vice President, I would hope and certainly imagine if our friend, the Vice President, is in the presiding officer's chair in the Senate and a Democratic Senator stands up and says, “I make a point of order because I believe this violates the Byrd Rule, where the House inserted a provision, you have to show that you are you lawfully in the U.S. in order to get the tax credit,” well, there may be people that are so used to massive numbers here in Washington that they would say, well, those millions or tens or hundreds of millions, that may not be material, that may be only incidental.

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I hope my friend, my Vice President, would understand that, to Americans, the kind of money we would be talking about is hard-earned and it is material to the budget. So what happens if the Vice President then rules—who is the President of the Senate—well, your point of order is overruled, it is not appropriate, it doesn't violate the Byrd rule. Well, then that same Democrat or another could jump up and say: I appeal the ruling of the chair.

Then what happens?

Normally, a Republican would stand and move to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair. And then there are far more than enough Republicans to vote to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair, which means the ruling stands, nothing is fatal, and we get closer to a repeal of ObamaCare. Even more important than that, we get closer to giving our constituents the help they really need.

So it has been a long few weeks. It was a very long conference, but I am encouraged, Mr. Speaker. I hope that Americans end up encouraged. I am glad the bill didn't pass on Friday just as I was 3 years ago when the original *de facto* amnesty bill that Speaker Boehner tried to shove through. I think we can get to a good bill. I am looking forward to seeing that happen and working with my friends here to get it done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

Mr. RUSH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for March 27 through March 30 on account of a death in the family.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

Joint resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the

Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S.J. Res. 30. Joint Resolution providing for the reappointment of Steve Case as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

S.J. Res. 35. Joint Resolution providing for the appointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

S.J. Res. 36. Joint Resolution providing for the appointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 29, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

918. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Missouri's Air Quality Implementation Plans; Open Burning Requirements [EPA-R07-OAR-2016-0470; FRL-9958-72-Region 7] received March 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

919. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — State of Iowa; Approval and Promulgation of the Title V Operating Permits Program, the State Implementation Plan, and 112(1) Plan [EPA-R07-OAR-2016-0453; FRL-9957-84-Region 7] received March 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

920. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

921. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the annual report pursuant to Sec. 2(9) of the Senate's Resolution of Advice and Consent to the Treaty with the United Kingdom Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation (Treaty Doc. 110-07); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

922. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the annual report pursuant to Sec. 2(8) of the Senate's Resolution of Advice and Consent to the Treaty with Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation (Treaty Doc. 110-10); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

923. A letter from the General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting the Office's FY 2016 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public